THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been taking several measures towards bringing about a uniform system of functioning of Stock Exchanges. These measures, inter-alia, relate to composition of Governing Bodies of Stock Exchanges, the Arbitration, Defaults and Disciplinary Action Committees, shortening of settlement periods for transactions in securities, prescription of norms for regulation of transactions between clients and stock-brokers, setting up of Surveillance and Price monitoring Cells in Stock Exchanges, etc.

(c) SEBI takes action under the relevant Rules and Regulations against market participants who are found to violate the rules/regulations.

Discontinuance of loan facility by Air India

2307. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has discontinued loan facility to its employees effective from April, 1995;

(b) whether it is not in violation to Section 8 of the Air Corporations (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Act, 1994, wherein the employees were assured for the continuance of existing facilities; and

(c) the rate of interest which the employees of Air India and Indian Airlines have to bear while obtaining loan from HDFC and how much of it will be reimbursed by Air India and Indian Airlines respectively?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Air India has decided not to accept any new application for individual and collective Housing Loan for the time being as a large number of applications are already pending for want of funds. The employees have however been advised to secure loans from Housing Development Finance Corporation to meet urgent requirements and a scheme for reimbursement of a portion of the interest charged has been put in place.

Housing Development Finance Corporation levies variable rates of interest depending upon the amount of loan. Air India reimburses to its employees 50% of the interest burden over the basic limit of 5½%. Indian Airlines, reimburses 50% of the total interest paid by its employees to HDFC on the housing loans.

Directive for Pre-Censorship of Entertainment Programmes

2308. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some directives have been issued for precensorship of entertainment programmes on all channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some action has been taken on these directives; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) Doordarshan has been following the practice of previewing all its programmes before telecast, so that they do not contain any undesirable violence or obscenity, in accordance with the provision of the Broad-cast Code formulated by the Government, for many years now. Further, only those films which have been certified by the Central Board of Film Certification and are found suitable for family viewing after a preview, by a screening committee comprising non-official members, are telecast by Doordarshan.